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In re application of : Marco CAERAN

Serial No. : 09/537,176

Filed : March 29, 2000

For : SPORTS BOOT WITH FLEXIBLE FRAME

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 to the Office Action of December 23, 2003 in the above-captioned application.

- Small Entity Status of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 has been established by a previously filed statement.
- A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 C.F.R. 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- A Request for Extension of Time.
- An Attachment: Pages 1344 of The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Fourth Edition, Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston, 2000.
- No Additional Fee.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

Claims After Amendment	No. Claims Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Small Entity		Other Than A Small Entity	
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Total Claims: 29	*29	0	x 9=	\$	x 18=	\$0.00
Indep. Claims: 1	**5	0	x 43=	\$	x 86=	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Presented			+145=	\$	+290=	\$0.00
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 Please charge my Deposit Account No. 19-0089 in the amount of \$_____. N/A A Check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing/extension fee is included. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089. Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.17, including any required extension of times fees in any concurrent or future reply requiring a petition for extension of time for its timely submission (37 CFR 1.136)(a)(3)

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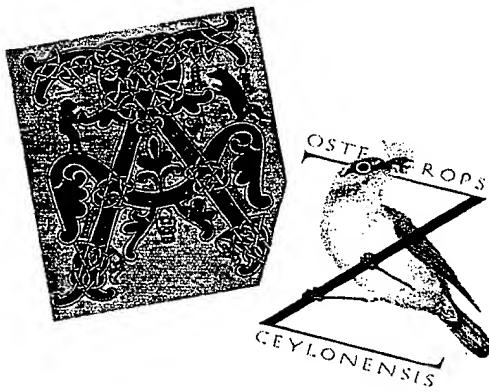
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James L. Rowland
Reg. No. 32,674

The
American
Heritage® Dictionary
of the English Language

FOURTH EDITION



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY
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ture thought to exist in cytoplasm and function in a manner analogous to, but independent of, chromosomal genes. —*plas'ma·gen'ic* (-jē-nik, -jēn'ik) *adj.*

plas·ma·le·m·a (plāz'ma-lēm'ə) *n.* See **cell membrane**. [PLASMA + Greek *lemma*, husk; see LEMMA¹.]

plasma membrane *n.* See **cell membrane**.

plas·ma·pher·e·sis (plāz'ma-fēr'ē-sis, -fār'ē-sis) *n.* A process in which plasma is taken from donated blood and the remaining components, mostly red blood cells, are returned to the donor. [PLASM(A) + Greek *aphairesis*, removal; see APHAERESIS.]

plas·ma·sol (plāz'ma-sōl', -sōl', -sōl') *n.* A state of cytoplasm that is more liquid than plasmagel.

plas·mid (plāz'mid) *n.* A circular, double-stranded unit of DNA that replicates within a cell independently of the chromosomal DNA. Plasmids are most often found in bacteria and are used in recombinant DNA research to transfer genes between cells.

plas·min (plāz'min) *n.* A proteolytic enzyme that is formed from plasminogen in blood plasma and dissolves the fibrin in blood clots. Also called *fibrinolysin*.

plas·min·o·gen (plāz'min-ō-jēn) *n.* The inactive precursor to plasmin that is found in body fluids and blood plasma.

plasmo- or **plasm-** *pref.* Plasma: *plasmin*. [From PLASMA.]

plas·mo·des·ma (plāz'ma-dēz'ma) also **plas·mo·desm** (plāz'ma-dēz'mə) *n., pl.* **-ma·ta** (-mā-tə) or **-mas** also **-desm** A strand of cytoplasm that passes through openings in cell walls and connects the protoplasts of adjacent living plant cells. [PLASMO- + Greek *desma*, bond (from *dein*, to bind).]

plas·mo·di·um (plāz'mō-dē-əm) *n., pl.* **-di·a** (-dē-ə) 1. A multinucleate mass of cytoplasm formed by the aggregation of a number of amoeboid cells, as that characteristic of the vegetative phase of the slime molds. 2. A protozoan of the genus *Plasmodium*, which includes the parasites that cause malaria. [New Latin *Plasmōdium*, genus name : PLASM(O)- + Greek *-ōdēs*, resembling; see COLLATION.] —**plas·mo·di·al** (-dē-əl) *adj.*

plas·mog·a·my (plāz-mōg'ə-mē) *n.* Fusion of two or more cells or protoplasts without fusion of the nuclei, as occurs in higher terrestrial fungi.

plas·mol·y·sis (plāz-mōl'ē-sis) *n., pl.* **-ses** (-sēz') Shrinkage or contraction of the protoplasm away from the wall of a living plant or bacterial cell, caused by loss of water through osmosis. —**plas·mol·y·t·ic** (plāz'mō-lit'ik) *adj.* —**plas·mol·y·t·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

plas·mo·lyze (plāz'mō-līz) *v.* **-lyzed**, **-lyz·ing**, **-lyz·es** —*tr.* To subject to plasmolysis. —*intr.* To undergo plasmolysis.

plas·mon (plāz'mōn) *n.* The aggregate of cytoplasmic or extranuclear genetic material in an organism. [German, from New Latin *plasma*, plasma. See PLASMA.]

-plast *suff.* A small body, structure, particle, or granule, especially of living matter; cell: *chloroplast*. [From Greek *plastos*, molded, from *plassein*, to mold. See PELO² in Appendix I.]

plas·ter (plās'tər) *n.* 1. A mixture of lime or gypsum, sand, and water, sometimes with fiber added, that hardens to a smooth solid and is used for coating walls and ceilings. 2. Plaster of Paris. 3. A pastelike mixture applied to a part of the body for healing or cosmetic purposes. Also called *sticking plaster*. 4. Chiefly British An adhesive bandage. —*v.-tered*, **-ter·ing**, **-ters** —*tr.* 1. To cover, coat, or repair with plaster. 2. To cover or hide or as if with a coat of plaster: *plastered over our differences*. 3. To apply a plaster to: *plaster an aching muscle*. 4a. To cover conspicuously, as with things pasted on; overspread: *plaster the walls with advertising*. b. To affix conspicuously, usually with a paste: *plaster notices on all the doors*. 5. To make smooth by applying a sticky substance: *plaster one's hair with pomade*. 6. To make adhere to another surface: *"His hair was plastered to his forehead"* (William Golding). 7. *Informal a.* To inflict heavy damage or injury on. b. To defeat decisively. —*intr.* To apply plaster. [Middle English, from Old English, medical dressing, and from Old French *plastrer*, cementing material, both from Latin *emplastrum*, medical dressing, from Greek *emplastron*, from *emplassein*, to plaster on : *en-*, in, on; see EN⁻² + *plassein*, to mold; see PELO² in Appendix I.] —**plas·ter·er** *n.* —**plas·ter·y** *adj.*

plas·ter·board (plās'tər-bōrd', -bōrd') *n.* A rigid board made of layers of fiberboard or paper bonded to a gypsum plaster core, used instead of plaster or wood panels in construction to form walls. Also called *gypsum board*, *wallboard*.

plaster cast *n.* 1. A sculptured mold or cast in plaster of Paris. 2. See *cast* (sense 11).

plas·tered (plās'tərd) *adj.* Slang Intoxicated; drunk.

plas·ter·ing (plās'tər-ing) *n.* 1. A layer or coating of plaster. 2. *Informal* A resounding defeat; a beating.

plaster of Paris *n.* Any of a group of gypsum cements, essentially hemihydrated calcium sulfate, $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\text{H}_2\text{O}$, a white powder that forms a paste when it is mixed with water and then hardens into a solid, used in making casts, molds, and sculpture. [Middle English, after PARIS¹, France.]

plaster·work (plās'tər-würk') *n.* Construction or ornamental work done with plaster.

plas·tic (plās'tik) *adj.* 1. Capable of being shaped or formed: *plastic material such as clay*. See synonyms at *malleable*. 2. Relating to or dealing with shaping or modeling: *the plastic art of sculpture*. 3. Having the qualities of sculpture; well-formed: *"the astonishing plastic beauty of the chorus girls"* (Frank Harris). 4. Giving form or shape to a substance: *the plastic forces that create and wear down a mountain range*. 5. Easily influenced; impressionable. 6. Made of a plastic or plastics: *a plastic garden hose*. 7. *Physics* Capable of undergoing continuous deformation without

rupture or relaxation. 8. *Biology* Capable of building tissue; forming. 9. Marked by artificiality or superficiality; synthetic: *a plastic world of fad, hype, and sensation*. 10. *Informal* Of or obtained by means of credit cards: *plastic money*. ♦ *n.* 1. Any of various organic compounds produced by polymerization, capable of being molded, extruded, cast into various shapes and films, or drawn into filaments used as textile fibers. 2. Objects made of plastic. 3. *Informal* A credit card or credit cards would accept cash or plastic in payment. [Latin *plasticus*, from Greek *plastikos*, from *plastos*, molded, from *plassein*, to mold. See PELO² in Appendix I.] —**plas·tic·i·ty** (-tis-ti-tē) *n.* (plās-tis-ti-tē)

-plastic suff. Forming; growing; changing; developing: *metaplastic* [Greek *plastikos*, fit for molding. See PLASTIC.]

plastic explosive *n.* A versatile explosive substance in the form of a moldable doughlike solid, used in bombs detonated by fuse or electrical impulse. Also called *plastique*.

plas·ti·cize (plās'ti-siz') *tr. & intr.v.* **-cized**, **-ciz·ing**, **-cizes** To make or become plastic. —**plas·ti·ciza·tion** (-si-zā-shən) *n.*

plas·ti·ciz·er (plās'ti-si-zər) *n.* Any of various substances added to plastics or other materials to make or keep them soft or pliable.

plastic surgery *n.* Surgery to remodel, repair, or restore body parts, especially by the transfer of tissue. —**plastic surgeon** *n.*

plas·tid (plās'tid) *n.* Any of several pigmented cytoplasmic organelles found in plant cells and other organisms, having various physiological functions, such as the synthesis and storage of food. [From Greek *plastid*, feminine of *plastēs*, molder, from *plastos*, molded. See PLASTIC.]

-plas·tid·i·al (plās-tid'ē-əl) *adj.*

plas·tique (plā-stik') *n.* See **plastic explosive**. [French, from Latin *plasticus*, plastic, of modeling. See PLASTIC.]

plas·tron (plās'trən) *n.* 1. A metal breastplate that is worn under a coat of mail. 2. A quilted pad that is worn by fencers to protect the torso and side. 3. A trimming on the front of a bodice. 4. The front of a man's dress shirt. 5. The front panel of the tunic of a uniform, usually of a different color than the rest. 6. *Zoology* The ventral part of the shell of a turtle or tortoise. [French, from Old French, from Old Italian *piastre*, augmentative of *piastra*, thin metal plate. See PIASTER.] —**plas·tra** (-trə) *adj.*

-plasty *suff.* Molding or forming surgically; plastic surgery: *dermatoplasty* [Greek *-plastiā*, from *plastos*, molded, from *plassein*, to mold. See PELO² in Appendix I.]

-plasy *suff.* Variant of *-plasia*.

plat¹ (plāt) *plāt* *tr.v.* **plat·ted**, **plat·ting**, **plat·ts** To plait or braid. ♦ *n.* A braid. [Middle English *platen*, alteration of *plaitem*, to fold, braid. See PLAITEM.]

plat² (plāt) *n.* 1. A piece of land; a plot. 2. A map showing actual or planned features, such as streets and building lots. ♦ *tr.v.* **plat·ted**, **plat·ting**, **plat·ts** To make a plat of: *plat a new town*. [Middle English, probably alteration (influenced by *plat*, something flat) of *plot*; see PLOT.]

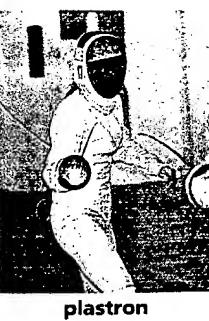
plat³ *abbr.* 1. plateau 2. platoon

Pla·ta (plā'tə, -tā), *Rio de la* A wide estuary of southeast South America between Argentina and Uruguay formed by the Paraná and Uruguay rivers and opening on the Atlantic Ocean. It was explored by Magellan in 1520 and Sebastian Cabot from 1526 to 1529.

Pla·tae·a (plā-tē'ə) An ancient city of central Greece southwest of Thebes. It was the site of a major Greek victory over the Persians in 479 B.C.

plate (plāt) *n.* 1. A smooth, flat, relatively thin, rigid body of uniform thickness. 2a. A sheet of hammered, rolled, or cast metal. b. A very thin applied or deposited coat of metal. 3a. A flat piece of metal forming part of a machine: *a boiler plate*. b. A flat piece of metal on which something is engraved. c. A license plate. 4a. A thin piece of metal used for armor. b. Armor made of such pieces. 5. *Printing* a. A sheet of metal, plastic, rubber, paperboard, or other material prepared for use as a printing surface, such as an electrotype or a stereotype. b. A print of a woodcut, lithograph, or other engraved material, especially when reproduced in a book. c. A full-page book illustration, often in color and printed on paper different from that used on the text pages. 6. *Photography* A light-sensitive sheet of glass or metal on which a photographic image can be recorded. 7. *Dentistry* A thin metallic or plastic support fitted to the gums to anchor artificial teeth. 8. *Architecture* In wood-frame construction, a horizontal member, capping the exterior wall studs, upon which the roof rafters rest. 9. *Baseball* Home plate. 10a. A shallow dish in which food is served or from which it is eaten. b. The contents of such a dish: *ate a plate of spaghetti*. c. A whole course served on such a dish. 11. Service and food for one person at a meal: *dinner at a set price per plate*. 12. Household articles, such as hollowware, covered with a precious metal, such as silver or gold. 13. A dish passed among the members of a group or congregation for the collection of offerings. 14. *Sports* a. A dish, cup, or other article of silver or gold offered as a prize. b. A contest, especially a horse race, offering such a prize. 15. A thin cut of beef from the brisket. 16. *Biology* a. A thin flat layer or scale, as that of a fish. b. A platelike part, organ, or structure, such as that covering some reptiles. 17. *Electricity* a. An electrode, as in a storage battery or capacitor. b. The anode in an electron tube. 18. *Geology* In the theory of plate tectonics, one of the sections of the earth's lithosphere, constantly moving in relation to the other sections. 19. *Informal* A schedule of matters to be dealt with: *had a lot on my plate at work after vacation*. ♦ *tr.v.*

plat·ted, **plat·ting**, **plates** 1. To coat or cover with a thin layer of metal. 2. To cover with armor plate: *plate a warship*. 3. *Printing* To make a stereotype or electrotype from. 4. To give a glossy finish to (paper) by pressing between metal sheets or rollers. 5. To arrange (food) on a plate, as for serving: *"a choice of starters, entrées, and desserts plated just as they will appear when ordered"* (John Edward Young). [Middle English, from



plastron